GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2015
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2015
SEAT ENTITLEMENTS TO ABU DHABI
Trivedi Shri Dinesh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the airlines of the United Arab Emirates fly more carriers to and from India than any standalone Indian carrier;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of flyers in and out of India in 2014 and the share of Gulf carriers in this;

(c) the reasons for enhancing the seat entitlements to Abu Dhabi by 11000 seats per week in 2013 and 12800 seats per week in 2014;

(d) whether Air India has raised any concerns regarding enhancement of seat entitlements to Abu Dhabi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) : Yes Madam.

(b): As per Winter Schedule 2014-15, designated carriers of India are operating 434 services per week to/from Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah in United Arab Emirates and designated carriers of Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah of United Arab Emirates are operating 455 services per week to/from India. Total number of flyers to/ from India in 2014 is 44,879,937 and share of Gulf carriers is 13,002,666 (31 per cent).

(c): Before enhancement of seats entitlements on India-Abu Dhabi sector, a demand survey was done and Indian carriers projected additional requirement of 55191 seats per week in phased manner upto Winter 2015-16 Schedule. Accordingly seat entitlements on India - Abu Dhabi sector were increased on reciprocal basis after consultation with stakeholders and traffic rights have been allocated to Air India, Jet Airways and Spicejet on the basis of their request.

(d) to (e): In Inter Ministerial Consultation, Air India did not support any substantial increase in entitlement. However, keeping in view of the overall economic interest of India the proposal of seat enhancement were considered.